THE CASE OF *WILLIAM GUTTERIDGE*, and other Glaſs-makers, againſt Paſſing a Pattent for Incorporating Sir *Joſeph Herne*, and Others, by the Name of the Glaſs-makers in the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Ten Miles Compaſs of the ſame.

THE Allegations upon which they deſire their Incorporations are falſe; Namely,

1ſt. They ſuggeſt, That by their continued Pains, Induſtry, long Experience in the Trade of making of Glaſs, and at their great Coſt and Charges, they have attained to greater Knowledge in the ſaid Manufacture than any others, and make better Glaſs than any heretofore made, and ſome never before made.

Reſponſ.

Suppoſing this were true; then indeed were they proper to have a Patent for their New Invention, but not to have a Corporation.

Beſides in the Corporation of all the Perſons therein named, not above two are Glaſs-Makers, all the reſt are Perſons to whom the Trade doth not of right belong. Beſides, The very Artiſts that now mix their Mettal, and Work their Glaſs, oppoſe their being Incorporated.

2dly. They ſay, if the ſaid Manufacture were well Managed, great Quantities might be Exported, and none Imported; whereas now great Quantities are Imported.

Reſponſ.

There were indeed ſome years ſince, great Quantities Imported, but now there is little or none, becauſe the Petitioners make better and cheaper Glaſs, than any heretofore Imported, and do daily Export great Quantities of Glaſs, and could do more, were there a Market for the ſame; and many of the Petitioners Glaſs-Houſes now ſtand unimployed, there being more Glaſs by them than they can ſell.

3dly. They pretend that Joynt-Stocks are neceſſary for carrying on the ſaid Manufacture.

Reſponſ.

That cannot be true; for the ſaid Manufacture is at preſent managed by ſeparate Stocks, and ſo managed that more is made of all ſorts, than can be ſold at Home or Abroad.

4thly. They ſay many Artiſts have been forced for want of Imployment here, to go beyond the Seas for Work.

Reſponſ.

This they ought to prove; but admit they ſhould, yet if more Glaſs of all ſorts are here made than can be vended, what can a Joynt-Stock do more?

It is true; two Artiſts indeed were forced to go beyond the Seas, but it was Mr. Bowles, *one of the Glaſs-Makers named in the intended Corporation, forced them to go, having by Promiſing them greater Wages than Mr.* Bellingham *gave, drawn them into Covenants to ſerve them for a time, and then not performing their promiſe, nor releaſing their Covenants, they were forced to go.*

5thly. They pretend that they had agreed with moſt of the Proprietors Intereſſed in the Glaſs-Houſes in *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and 10 Miles diſtance of the ſame.

Reſponſ.

There are but about two and twenty Glaſs-Houſes in London *and* Weſtminſter, *and ten Miles diſtance of the ſame, of which, thoſe named in the intended Corporation have but five, and the Petitioners have twelve; the reſt may be preſumed to ſtand Neuters.*

Beſides moſt of the Glaſs-makers at New-Caſtle *and* Sturbridge, *oppoſe the ſaid Corporation; and though their Glaſs-houſes are fair remote, yet there Market is here in* London, *and they have Agents here.*

And ſo if their Allegations and Pretenſions, upon which they deſire to become Incorporated are falſe, then the Corporation or Subſtructure on ſuch a falſe Foundation ſhould certainly be deſtroyed.

But further; they have not mentioned one Inconvenience that will attend the ſaid Incorporation, ſo it muſt be done for them and

1ſt. It is plain, the Corporation, if paſſed, will deſtroy Mr. *Bellingham*'s Patents and others, which have already been granted, to ſome Ingenious Artiſts, that have travelled, and ſpent much Money, and mightily improved the ſaid Manufacture in *England*, and to whom the pretended Incorporators are beholden for the very Engine they now Work withall; for they are in General called Glaſs-makers, without any Reſtriction, and no reſtraining Words after, can prevent their overthrowing a leſs powerfull than themſelves.

2dly. They are not obliged to take into their Corpo-ration all Glaſs-makers that ſhall be willing to come into them.

3dly. None muſt come in, without great Stocks, or if they doe, thoſe of the Corporation, who bring in Money only, will have as great a ſhare of the Profits, as any of the ſaid Artiſts, who bring in Money and Art too.

4thly. The Thing plainly ſpeaks it ſelf to be a Corporation of Rich Men to oppreſs the Artiſts in the ſaid Manufacture, and will in Effect be a Monopoly, and engroſs that Commodity into a few Hands, and ſo raiſe the price of it, and frighten the Artiſts away.